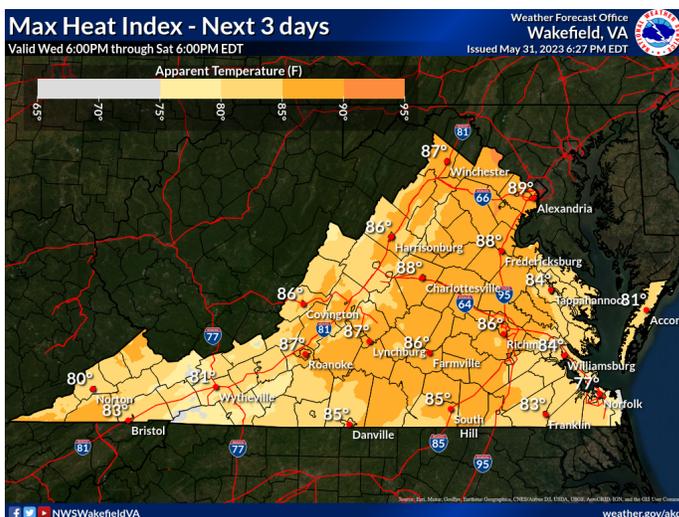
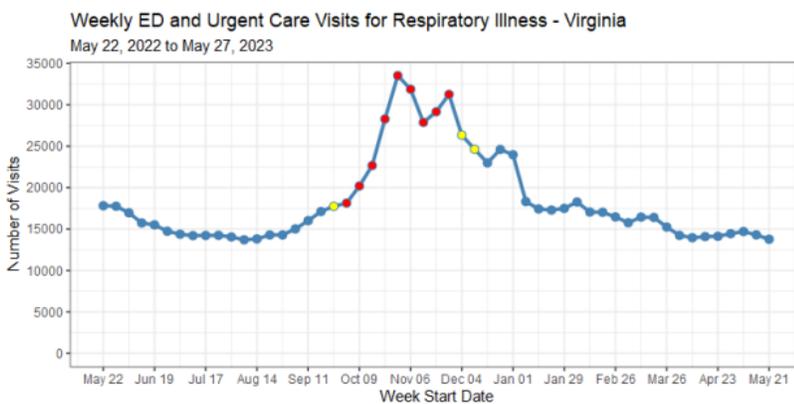


June 2, 2023

Key Takeaways

- Case rates of COVID-19 and influenza are at a seasonal low. COVID-19 hospitalization rates in Virginia continue to fall with a 24% decrease from the previously recorded week.
- China is experiencing a COVID-19 surge, which is expected to peak at the end of June. Health authorities there are preparing to roll out a vaccine for the XBB Omicron subvariant.
- The UK identified ten mpox cases between May 4th and May 25th, bringing the 2023 total to 20.
- Hurricane season began June 1st. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts a "near normal" hurricane season.

Key Figures



Source: [National Weather Service](#)

COVID-19

34%

Chance that the WHO will identify a new COVID-19 Variant of Concern before 2024. (Metaculus [forecast](#))

89

COVID-19 [hospital admissions](#) in Virginia for the week ending May 27.

65 million

The number of COVID-19 cases China may see per week by the end of June, [according to a senior health advisor](#) there.

Mpox

4.1

Metaculus [forecast](#) of the number of mpox cases Virginia will experience in Q2, 2023

Artificial Intelligence

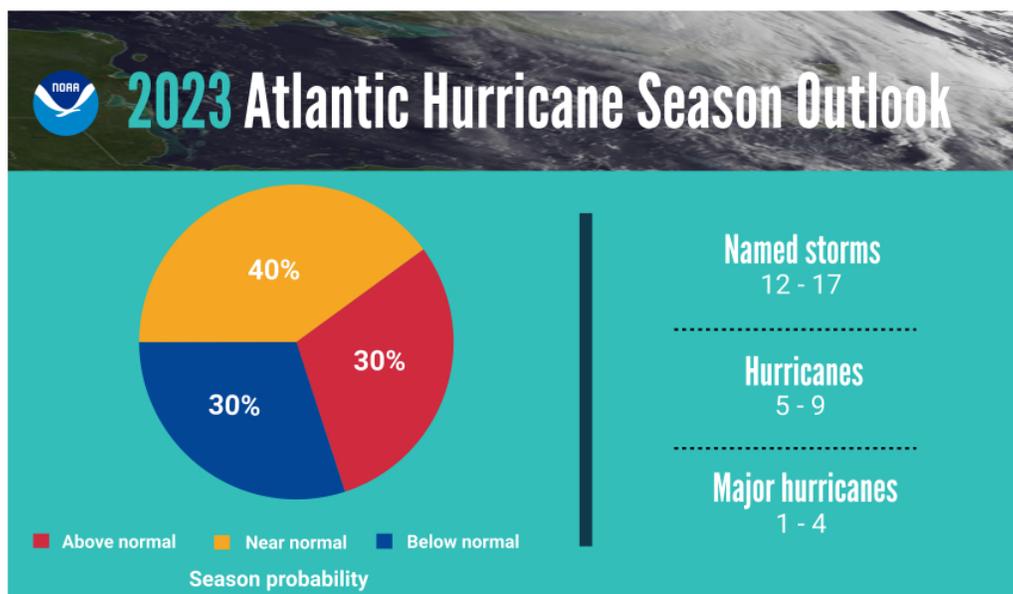
Feb 2032

Metaculus [Community Forecast](#) of when the first general AI system will be announced.

Forecasts are italicized

Other News

- **China experiences COVID-19 surge, expecting 65 million cases a week by the end of June.** Model forecasts indicate that, while large, the surge is likely to be muted compared with the previous wave which saw 37 million cases per day. China is currently preparing to roll out new vaccines that will target the XBB Omicron subvariant.
- **Genetic mutation increased Avian flu severity during U.S. spread.** Scientists at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital have discovered H5N1 viruses gained the ability to cause severe disease and target the brain in mammals as they spread across North America. However, scientists found it to be low-risk to humans.
- **Between May 4th and May 25th, the UK diagnosed 10 mpox cases**, bringing the 2023 total to 20. Meanwhile, the CDC warned that the risk for future outbreaks depends on immunity levels in at-risk populations. More than 592,000 men who have sex with men (MSM) live in jurisdictions with risk for mpox recurrences capable of sustained transmission.
- **Hurricane season began June 1st and will last until November 30.** NOAA predicts a 40% chance of a near-normal season, with an equal 30% chance of an above and below-normal season. NOAA expects 12-17 named storms, including 5-9 hurricanes.
- **A statement released by Center for AI Safety called artificial intelligence (AI) called AI a societal-scale risk on par with pandemics and nuclear war.** The statement was signed by more than 350 executives, researchers and engineers working in AI. A separate article published in The BMJ examined public health risks from AI, highlighting misinformation and disinformation, automated lethal weapons, impacts on the labor force, and potential existential threats from advanced AI.
- **Fewer migrants than expected have arrived since the end of Title 42.** Lawmakers predicted there would be a substantial increase in migration once Title 42 expired. In El Paso, Texas, nearly 38,000 migrants have been allowed entry so far in 2023, though weekly entries are down slightly since the expiration of Title 42 earlier this month.



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration expects a near-normal 2023 Atlantic hurricane season with 12-17 named storms. 1-4 of those are expected to develop into major hurricanes. Image Source: [NOAA](#).